THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Government is aware of the death of mother sea turtles while coming to lay eggs along the coast of Orissa. The death of the sea turtles is not attributed primarily to non use of Turtle Excluder Device (TED). The figures of mortality during last four years are :

Year	Total number of deaths
1998-99	13,671
1999-2000	15,628
2000-01	5,483
2001-02	12,777

Steps have been taken for mandatory use of TED by the trawlers. Out of 650 registered trawlers, 250 have already been supplied with TEDs free of cost. Greater awareness is being created among trawler owners regarding misconception of resultant catch loss due to use of TEDs.

(b) The proposal to constitute the area of Magarmukh-Rushikulya, including Rushikulya river mouth, as a Wildlife Sanctuary has already been approved by the Central Government in 1997. However, the Chief Wildlife Warden, Orissa has informed that subsequently in August, 1999 in a high level meeting it was decided to have two Sanctuaries *viz.* Magarmukh and Palur, in place of one as proposed earlier, for reasons of better management. No revised proposals have been submitted by the State Government of Orissa.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in Kerala

*176. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala Government has submitted any proposal to allot funds for the implementation of Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA); if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the funds have been allotted to Kerala; if so, the amount thereof;

(c) what is the teacher-student ratio prescribed in SSA Scheme at the school level; and

(d) whether Government extend financial assistance to State Governments to maintain teacher-student ratio as 1 : 40 or as stipulated in SSA scheme?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) SSA plan proposals for the year 2001-02 and 2002-03 as received from the State were appraised by the Government of India

and approved for Rs. 23.73 crores and Rs. 86.91 crores respectively. In addition, Annual Work Plans for the six DPEP districts were approved for Rs. 49.55 crores and Rs. 30.21 crores during 2001-02 and 2002-03 respectively.

(c) 1:40 (One teacher for every forty pupils).

(d) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is an additionality *i.e.*, over and above the expenditure already incurred by the States/Union Territories in 1999-2000 immediately prior to the launching of the Abhiyan. Hence only the salary and expenses of additional teachers required to maintain the Teacher-Student ratio at the level of 1:40 will be borne by the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA).

Revival of IISCO

*177. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present stage of the revival package plan for sustaining the operations at the Burnpur-based steel plant of IISCO; and

(b) what is the present state of the affairs of this steel plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) A rehabilitation proposal for Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited (IISCO) is currently under examination of Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), the Operating Agency (OA) of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR).

(b) Burnpur Works of IISCO is not in a good condition due to technological obsolescence, ageing of plant and equipment, outmoded technology and lack of necessary capital inputs etc. Its saleable steel production has come down to 302 thousand tonnes per annum in 2001-02 as compared to 387 thousand tonnes per annum in 1991-92 and its accumulated losses as on 30.9.2002 are Rs. 897.48 crore.

Rolling back of fertilizer's prices

†*178. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI:
SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to roll back the increased prices of fertilizers;

(b) if so, by when a final decision would be taken in this regard;

†Orignal notice of the question received in Hindi.